

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

82822

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR

09/856209

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/JP99/06478

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE
November 19, 1999

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED
November 20, 1998

TITLE OF INVENTION

SILICON SINGLE CRYSTAL AND PRODUCTION METHOD FOR SILICON SINGLE CRYSTAL WAFER

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

NAKAMURA et al.

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☐ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (24) indicated below.
4. ☐ The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2))
 - a. ☒ is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☐ An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
 - a. ☐ is attached hereto.
 - b. ☐ has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
7. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).
10. ☐ An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).
11. ☒ A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409).
12. ☒ A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).

Items 13 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:

13. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
14. ☒ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
15. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
16. ☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
17. ☐ A substitute specification.
18. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
19. ☐ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.
20. ☐ A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
21. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
22. ☒ Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail
23. ☐ Other items or information:

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR 09/856209	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP99/06478	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 82822
--	--	--

24. The following fees are submitted:

BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)) :

- ☐ Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO **\$1000.00**
- ☐ International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO **\$860.00**
- ☐ International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO **\$710.00**
- ☐ International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) **\$690.00**
- ☐ International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) **\$100.00**

ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =**\$860.00**

Surcharge of **\$130.00** for furnishing the oath or declaration later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)).

\$0.00

CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	
Total claims	13 - 20 =	0	x \$18.00	\$0.00
Independent claims	7 - 3 =	4	x \$80.00	\$320.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable). <input type="checkbox"/>				\$0.00

TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =**\$1,180.00**

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. (See 37 CFR 1.27). The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.

\$0.00**SUBTOTAL =****\$1,180.00**

Processing fee of **\$130.00** for furnishing the English translation later than ☐ 20 ☐ 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)).

\$0.00**TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =****\$1,180.00**

Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31) (check if applicable). ☒

\$40.00**TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =****\$1,220.00**

Amount to be: refunded	\$
charged	\$

- a. ☒ A check in the amount of **\$1,220.00** to cover the above fees is enclosed.
- b. ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **23-0920**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- d. ☐ Fees are to be charged to a credit card. **WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. **Credit card information should not be included on this form.** Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Gerald T. Shekleton, Esq.
WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 S. Riverside Plaza
22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606

SIGNATURE

Gerald T. Shekleton

NAME

27,466

REGISTRATION NUMBER

DATE

09/856209

RECD PCT/PTO 18 MAY 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)

Applicant(s): NAKAMURA et al.

Docket No.

82822

Serial No.

Filing Date

Examiner

Group Art Unit

Invention: **SILICON SINGLE CRYSTAL AND PRODUCTION METHOD FOR SILICON SINGLE CRYSTAL WAFER**

I hereby certify that the following correspondence:

371 Patent Application*(Identify type of correspondence)*

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

May 18, 2001*(Date)*Allen Walker*(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)**(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)*EL169845451US*("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)***Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.**

82822

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application)
)
 Applicant: Kozo NAKAMURA, Toshiaki)
 SAISHOJI, Takashi YOKOYAMA,)
 Shin MATSUKUMA, and Fumitaka)
 ISHIKAWA)
)
 Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned)
)
 Filed: Herewith)
)
 For: SILICON SINGLE CRYSTAL)
 AND PRODUCTION METHOD)
 FOR SILICON SINGLE)
 CRYSTAL WAFER)
)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment for entry in the above-identified application.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims as follows:

4. (once amended) The silicon single crystal ingot production method according to claim 2, characterized in that, when producing the silicon single crystal ingot, a pulling speed of the silicon single crystal ingot is changed.

5. (once amended) A silicon single crystal wafer, obtained from the silicon single crystal ingot of claim 2, wherein there exists an OSF ring an inner diameter of which is 70%

or less of an overall diameter, and in which there exists, surrounding the OSF ring, a defect free zone occupying 50% or more of a total surface area (on one side).

6. (once amended) A silicon single crystal wafer, obtained from the silicon single crystal ingot of claim 2, wherein there exists an OSF ring an inner diameter of which is 50% or less of an overall diameter, and in which there exists, surrounding the OSF ring, a defect free zone occupying 75% or more of a total surface area (on one side).

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.



By
Gerald T. Shekleton
Registration No. 27,466

Dated: May 18, 2001

Welsh & Katz, Ltd.
120 South Riverside Plaza
22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: 312/655-1500

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

4. (once amended) The silicon single crystal ingot production method according to claim 2 [or 3], characterized in that, when producing the silicon single crystal ingot, a pulling speed of the silicon single crystal ingot is changed.

5. (once amended) A silicon single crystal wafer, obtained from the silicon single crystal ingot of [any one of claims 2 thorough 4] claim 2, wherein there exists an OSF ring an inner diameter of which is 70% or less of an overall diameter, and in which there exists, surrounding the OSF ring, a defect free zone occupying 50% or more of a total surface area (on one side).

6. (once amended) A silicon single crystal wafer, obtained from the silicon single crystal ingot of [any one of claims 2 thorough 4] claim 2, wherein there exists an OSF ring an inner diameter of which is 50% or less of an overall diameter, and in which there exists, surrounding the OSF ring, a defect free zone occupying 75% or more of a total surface area (on one side).

DESCRIPTION

SILICON SINGLE CRYSTAL AND PRODUCTION METHODFOR SILICON SINGLE CRYSTAL WAFERTECHNICAL FIELD

This invention concerns a method for production of silicon single crystals by the Czochralski method, and in particular concerns a method for production of silicon single crystals in which growth defects are reduced to a level sufficient for practical use, and the economic effect of semiconductor manufacturing processes, up to and including final IC manufacture, can be raised substantially.

This invention further concerns silicon ingots pulled under prescribed conditions by the Czochralski method (CZ method) and silicon single crystal wafers cut from these, as well as production methods for the same.

BACKGROUND ART

Crystal defects arising during growth of CZ silicon single crystals obtained by the Czochralski method (hereafter "CZ method") have an adverse effect on the reliability of gate oxide film in MOS devices and on PN junction leak characteristics and similar, and so must be reduced insofar as possible.

Representative growth defects contained in CZ silicon single crystals include dislocation clusters, octahedral void defects, and ring-shape oxidation-induced stacking faults (hereafter abbreviated "OSF rings"). It is widely known that void defects degrade the reliability of the gate oxide film of MOS devices, and that dislocation clusters degrade the characteristics of semiconductor devices.

These defects do not occur in a disorderly manner in the CZ silicon single crystal; it is known that on the inside of OSF rings void defects occur, and on the outside dislocation clusters occur.

That is, the silicon ingots obtained by the CZ method and the silicon wafers cut therefrom can be divided into four areas according to the distribution of growth-induced defects: (I) a void defect zone, (II) an OSF ring zone, (III) a perfectly crystalline (defect free) zone, and (IV) a dislocation cluster zone.

It is known that the position of the OSF ring is influenced by the temperature gradient within the crystal in the pulling axis direction (this changes with the position in the crystal radial direction) (E. Dornberger, W. v. Ammon, J. Electrochem. Soc., Vol. 143 (1996), p. 1648). The above "(II) OSF ring zone" is inappropriate for a wafer to be used for devices; and a "(IV) dislocation cluster zone" also is inappropriate for a wafer for devices, since dislocation clusters have an adverse effect on PN junction leak characteristics.

For these reasons, until now "(I) void defect zone" crystals have primarily been used; but recently there has been interest in the production of crystals the entirety of which is occupied by the "(III) perfectly crystalline (defect free) zone" (Journal Jpn. Assoc. Crystal Growth, Vol. 25 No. 5 (1998), p. 207).

With respect to production of a perfect crystal, Hourai et al. have shown that in the zone on the outside of an OSF ring there occurs a defect free zone not containing dislocation clusters, and have reported that, by adjusting the relation between the crystal growth speed and the temperature gradient within the crystal in the pulling axis direction such that the ratio is within a special range, defect free single crystals not containing growth defects were obtained (54th Conf. Jpn. Soc. Appl. Phys. (Sept. 27 to 30, 1993); Preprints 54th Conf. Jpn. Soc. Appl. Phys., No. 1, p. 303, 29a-HA-7; Japanese Patent Laid-open No. H8-330316; M. Hourai, H. Nishikawa, T. Tanaka et al., Semiconductor Silicon, 1998, p. 453).

However, the method of Hourai et al. involves adjusting the relation between the crystal growth speed and the temperature gradient in the crystal in the pulling axis direction so as to assume a ratio within a special extremely narrow range, and this control is difficult. As a result of the difficulties of such operation control, the costs incurred tend to be very high, so that even when the economic effect is enhanced through improvement of yield by reduction of growth defects, the economic effect of the entire semiconductor production process declines. And because the behavior of the occurrence of the defect free zone is not clear, it is not possible to reliably obtain, at a definite rate, products containing a sufficient defect free zone, thus it is unstable.

In other words, if it were possible to efficiently grow a crystal consisting only of the "(III) perfectly crystalline (defect free) zone", the problem of degradation of the gate oxide film withstand voltage characteristic due to the existence of void defects would be resolved; but considerably precise pulling control is necessary for production of a perfect crystal, and so production efficiency tends to decline compared with previous cases.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

An object of this invention is to provide a method enabling the stable endowment of silicon single crystal wafers produced by the CZ method with a broad defect free zone.

Another object of this invention is to provide a method for producing wafers for devices, suitable for efficient production.

In order to achieve the above objects, this invention concerns a method for producing a silicon single crystal ingot by the Czochralski method, characterized in that

by adjusting parameters during pulling of the silicon single crystal ingot, and performing pulling of "a silicon single crystal ingot containing a perfectly crystalline part" such that an OSF ring appears at a prescribed position in the silicon single crystal ingot, a

production efficiency of "a perfectly crystalline part of the silicon single crystal ingot" and/or of "a part of the silicon single crystal ingot which can be used as wafers" is improved.

Thus in this invention, firstly, even when the fraction of the perfect crystal part in a silicon single crystal ingot is low, by raising the pulling speed, a state can be achieved in which the efficiency of production of the perfect crystal part is in fact improved, when converted into per unit time. Also in this invention, secondly, by appropriately adjusting the position of appearance of the OSF ring, it is possible to create a silicon single crystal ingot in which, although there exist crystal defects, there is a high fraction of the part adequate for use as wafers (the part for which use as wafers is possible). Consequently it is possible to improve the efficiency of production of this part adequate for use as wafers (the part for which use as wafers is possible).

In one aspect of this invention, a method is provided for producing, reliably and at low cost, a broad defect free zone in a silicon single crystal ingot produced by the CZ method, by investigating in detail the behavior of the occurrence of the defect free zone under various growth conditions. Further, a method is provided enabling the stable supply at low cost of high-quality silicon wafers with few growth defects.

A separate aspect of this invention was devised based on the expectation that high-quality silicon wafers can be obtained by expanding the defect free zone on the outside of the OSF ring, taking as a premise the fact shown by Hourai et al. that "a denuded zone not containing dislocation clusters may occur in the zone outside the OSF ring". However, this invention makes possible "the enlargement of the defect free zone outside the OSF ring, and the stable supply at low cost of silicon wafers containing a broad defect free zone," which previously had not been possible due to the fact that the behavior of the occurrence of the defect free zone was not clear and was simultaneously unstable.

Specifically, This invention provides the following methods for production of silicon single crystal ingots and the following silicon single crystal wafers.

(A1) A method for producing a silicon single crystal ingot by the Czochralski method, characterized in that G_{outer}/G_{center} , which is a ratio of values at a crystal outer edge and at a crystal center of an average value G of a temperature gradient in the crystal in a pulling axis direction, within a temperature range from a silicon melting point to 1350°C , is between 1.10 and 1.50. There is no established value for the melting point of silicon, which is said to be between 1412°C and 1420°C ; but the temperature in degrees Celsius of the silicon melting point is not addressed as a problem in this invention, and whatever the established value of the silicon melting point may be, "the temperature range from the melting point of silicon to 1350°C " is included in the range of this invention.

(A2) The above-described method for producing a silicon single crystal ingot, characterized in that the silicon single crystal ingot production is performed while adjusting a distance between a silicon melt and a heat-shield member installed in a Czochralski-method silicon single crystal production equipment.

(A3) The above-described method for producing a silicon single crystal ingot, characterized in that, when producing the silicon single crystal ingot, a pulling speed of the silicon single crystal ingot is changed.

(A4) A silicon single crystal wafer, obtained from the above-described silicon single crystal ingot, in which there exists an OSF ring an inner diameter of which is 70% or less of an overall diameter, and in which there exists, surrounding the OSF ring, a defect free zone occupying 50% or more of a total surface area (on one side).

(A5) A silicon single crystal wafer, obtained from the above-described silicon single crystal ingot, wherein there exists an OSF ring an inner diameter of which is 50% or less of an

overall diameter, and in which there exists, surrounding the OSF ring, a defect free zone occupying 75% or more of a total surface area (on one side).

As a separate embodiment, in order to achieve the aforementioned objects, these inventors investigated the usefulness of a crystal in which are intermixed the above zones I, II and III, pulling control for which is easier than in the case of a perfect crystal. Conditions were determined enabling the production of such an intermixed-zone crystal in which the gate oxide integrity (GOI) yield is satisfactory and dislocation clusters do not occur, thereby completing this invention.

Until now, the relations between the pulling conditions, the proportions of the above zone I and zone III, and the GOI yield had not been clearly demonstrated (if zone III broadens in the in-plane defect zone distribution, the part with satisfactory of the GOI characteristics broadens, but a tendency for the GOI defect density to increase in the narrowing zone I is observed; and so considering the GOI yield over the entire wafer, it is not necessarily the case that if zone III is increased the high GOI will be strengthened), and so it has been difficult to determine pulling conditions in order to produce a crystal with satisfactory high GOI characteristics. However, it was thought that one effective solution is to produce a crystal in which the above-described zones I, II and III are intermixed, with greater ease of pulling control, rather than a perfect crystal. As a result of detailed studies of conditions, the present invention was completed.

In this process, the inventors discovered that in silicon wafers cut from silicon ingots produced by the CZ method, by expanding the inner diameter of the OSF ring, the density of void defects in the void defect zone existing therein decreases, making the wafer suitable as a non-annealed silicon wafer (a silicon wafer not subjected to annealing treatment (for example, in Japanese Patent Application Laid-open No. 61-193456)), to complete this invention.

Specifically, this invention provides the following.

(B1) A silicon ingot, pulled by a CZ method under conditions satisfying the following (1) and (2):

(1) " $1.15 \leq (G1_{edge}/G1_{center}) \leq 1.25$ "

(2) " $0.5 < (\text{OSF ring inner diameter/crystal diameter}) < 1.06 \times (G1_{center} \times G2_{center})^{-0.2}$ "

(B2) A silicon wafer, cut from the above-described (1) silicon ingot, characterized in that the inner diameter of the OSF ring is at least 1/2 the inner diameter of the wafer.

(B3) A method of producing a silicon ingot, characterized in that the silicon ingot is pulled by the CZ method under conditions satisfying the following (1) and (2):

(1) " $1.15 \leq (G1_{edge}/G1_{center}) \leq 1.25$ "

(2) " $0.5 < (\text{OSF ring inner diameter/crystal diameter}) < 1.06 \times (G1_{center} \times G2_{center})^{-0.2}$ "

(B4) A silicon wafer for non-annealing, cut from a silicon ingot produced by the CZ method, characterized in that an inner diameter of an OSF ring is at least 1/2 a wafer inner diameter.

(B5) The silicon wafer for non-annealing according to (B4), characterized in that the silicon ingot is produced by pulling under conditions such that " $1.15 \leq (G1_{edge}/G1_{center}) \leq 1.25$ ".

(B6) In a silicon wafer cut from a silicon ingot produced by the CZ method, a method to reduce a density of void defects existing on the inside of an OSF ring by expanding an inner diameter of the OSF ring.

(B7) In a silicon wafer cut from a silicon ingot produced by the CZ method, a method to improve a GOI in an area on the inside of an OSF ring by controlling a ratio of an OSF ring inner diameter to a crystal diameter, $G1 \times G2$, and $G1_{edge}/G1_{center}$.

Definitions of Terms and Similar

"G1" signifies the temperature gradient ($^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{mm}$) in the axis direction in the temperature region in which the pattern of defects introduced during growth is determined (the temperature region from the solid-liquid interface temperature to approximately 1350°C).

"G2" signifies the axial-direction temperature gradient ($^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{mm}$) of the void defect formation temperature region (the temperature region near 1120°C).

"G1_{center}" denotes the axial-direction temperature gradient ($^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{mm}$) at the crystal center, from the solid-liquid interface temperature to approximately 1350°C ; "G1_{edge}" signifies the axial-direction temperature gradient ($^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{mm}$) at the crystal edge, from the solid-liquid interface temperature to approximately 1350°C . "G2_{center}" denotes the axial-direction temperature gradient ($^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{mm}$) at the center of the crystal near 1120°C .

With respect to the conditions " $1.15 \leq (G1_{\text{edge}}/G1_{\text{center}}) \leq 1.25$ " and " $0.5 < (\text{OSF ring inner diameter/crystal diameter}) < 1.06 \times (G1_{\text{center}} \times G2_{\text{center}})^{-0.2}$ ", the values 1.15, 1.25, 0.5, 1.06, and -0.2 which appear here were, as explained below, calculated or determined based on plots obtained from experiments, and are no more than the optimal values as understood by the inventors at this stage. Hence inventions which deviate slightly from the above ranges yet have the same actions and effects as this invention are, in technical terms, equivalent, and so it is reasonable to regard these as contained within the technical scope of this invention.

Silicon Single Crystal Wafers

The above invention, while accepting the existence of crystal defects, realizes a reduction in the costs required to monitor the conditions for reducing growth defects and enhancement of the economic effect of semiconductor production processes in their entirety. Hence from the standpoint of lowering costs while accepting the existence of crystal defects, the silicon single crystal wafers produced by means of this invention necessarily contain an OSF ring to some extent together with a defect free zone. If the ratio is within the above-described range, then it is contained in the range of this invention.

The silicon single crystal wafer of this invention is cut from a silicon single crystal ingot of this invention, and can be produced by means of prescribed machining according to standard methods.

Silicon Single Crystal Ingot Production Equipment

Fig. 2 is a block diagram showing the principal parts of silicon single crystal ingot production equipment of this invention. Similarly to ordinary CZ-method silicon single crystal production equipment, the silicon single crystal ingot production equipment of this invention comprises a crucible 13 for production and storage of silicon melt 12 inside a sealed chamber 11 (as in ordinary CZ-method silicon single crystal production equipment, this crucible 13 comprises a quartz crucible 13b positioned on the inside of a graphite crucible 13a); a heater 14 to heat this crucible 13; an electrode 15 to supply electric power to this heater 14; a crucible holder 16 to support the crucible 13; and a pedestal 17 which rotates the crucible 13. Within the chamber 11 are provided thermal insulation material 21, melt receiver 23, and inner cylinder 24 as appropriate. This equipment also comprises a heat-shield member 25 to shield the radiation of heat from the heater 14 to the bulk silicon 27. Also, though not shown in particular, the silicon single crystal ingot production equipment of this invention also comprises the inert gas introduction and exhaust system with which this type of CZ-method silicon single crystal production equipment is normally equipped. In such a system, the heat-shield member 25 also incorporates a function to adjust the flow path of the inert gas.

Characteristic of the silicon single crystal ingot production equipment of this invention is the fact that the values of V/G ($\text{mm}^2/^\circ\text{C}\cdot\text{min}$) and $G_{\text{outer}}/G_{\text{center}}$, which are keys to the execution of this invention, are adjusted by moving the heat-shield member 25 to adjust the distance h from the tip part of the heat-shield member 25 to the liquid surface of the silicon melt 12. In actuality, by adjusting the distance h the amount of heat shielding of the bulk silicon 27 from the heater 14 and the liquid surface of the silicon melt 12 is changed, and simultaneously the quantity and speed of the inert gas flowing over the surface of the bulk silicon 27 are changed slightly; as a result it should be possible to adjust the temperature gradient in the crystal at the surface of the bulk silicon 27 in the crystal pulling axis direction,

and therefore also the temperature gradient in the crystal in the center part in the crystal pulling axis direction.

In this aspect, adjustment of the distance h from the tip part of the heat-shield member 25 to the liquid surface of the silicon melt 12 is performed by the linkage of the lifter 25a which adjusts the height of the heat-shield member 25, and the angular 25b which adjusts the inclination of the heat-shield member 25. However, adjustment of the distance h is not limited to this mechanism. That is, insofar as this invention is the first instance of adjustment of the V/G value ($\text{mm}^2/^\circ\text{C-min}$) and of $G_{\text{outer}}/G_{\text{center}}$ using the heat-shield member installed in CZ-method silicon single crystal production equipment, any aspect which enables adjustment of the distance h should be construed as being included in the scope of this invention.

In this invention, adjustment of the distance h may for example be performed based on the calculation results of simulation analysis such as a global heat transfer analysis, or may be performed by feedback control based on measured values or by similar means.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a conceptual view showing the position in the radial direction of the OSF ring and the range of distribution of the defect free zone, resulting from the pulling speed;

Fig. 2 is a block diagram showing the principal parts of silicon single crystal ingot production equipment of this invention; and,

Figs 3(A) to 3(F) are figures showing the GOI results and the presence or absence of dislocation clusters, resulting from the ratio of the OSF ring inner diameter to the crystal diameter and the $G_1 \times G_2$ condition, for Table 1 through Table 6. In particular, Fig. 3(A) is for Table B1, Fig. 3(B) is for Table B2, Fig. 3(C) is for Table B3, Fig. 3(D) is for Table B4, Fig. 3(E) is for Table B5, and Fig. 3(F) is for Table B6.

In Figs. 3(A) to 3(F), ○ denotes an item with a GOI C mode yield of 60% or higher, and with no dislocation clusters; + denotes an item with a GOI C mode yield of 60% or higher, and with dislocation clusters; and × denotes an item with a GOI C mode yield of less than 60%. The numbers in the figures indicate the $G1_{edge}/G1_{center}$ values.

BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

As a result of investigating the behavior of the occurrence of the defect free zone under various growth conditions, it was found that the radial-direction position of the OSF ring and range of distribution of the defect free zone due to the pulling speed are as in Fig. 1. That is, the OSF ring contracts as the pulling speed is decreased, but when the OSF ring radius becomes smaller than a specific value, the defect free zone vanishes. Hence in order to obtain a constant defect free zone, the pulling speed is inappropriate if either too high or too low, but must be within a certain prescribed range which is appropriate (the interval from V1 to V2 in Fig. 1).

As described above, the position of the OSF ring is known to be affected by the temperature gradient in the crystal in the pulling axis direction (which changes with the position in the radial direction of the crystal). Hence studies were conducted to determine the temperature gradient in the crystal in the pulling axis direction, at different positions in the radial direction, for which the defect free zone is obtained over the broadest range. In these studies, because there is a correlation between the pulling speed of the bulk crystal and the temperature gradient in the crystal, experimental results were obtained by investigating the defect distribution when the pulling speed was gradually reduced, as in the example of Fig. 1.

Void defects and dislocation clusters were studied by Secco etching without stirring, and OSF ring positions were evaluated by X-ray topography after oxidation heat treatment for

three hours at 780°C, and also after a subsequent 16 hours at 1000°C. The temperature gradient in the crystal in the pulling axis direction at each position in the radial direction was determined from total heat transfer analysis in the growth equipment currently being established. Experiments were conducted using crystals 200 mm in diameter.

Embodiment 1

Table A1 shows, for each growth condition, the external radius of the smallest OSF ring for which a state in which the defect free zone extends from the OSF ring outer side to the crystal perimeter is maintained, as shown in Fig. 1. Hence in Table 1, a smaller radius signifies that a larger area is occupied by the defect free zone.

From Table A1, it is seen that when the ratio $G_{\text{outer}}/G_{\text{center}}$ of the values of the average value of G for the temperature gradient in the crystal in the pulling axis direction at the crystal outer face and at the crystal center, in the temperature range from the silicon melting point to 1350°C, is between 1.10 and 1.50, the outer radius of the smallest OSF ring is small (that is, the area occupied by the defect free zone is large). Thus it was found that this range is a preferred growth condition to obtain an appropriate defect free zone fraction. On the other hand, when $G_{\text{outer}}/G_{\text{center}}$ is not between 1.10 and 1.50, the area of the wafer occupied by the defect free zone falls to less than 1/2, and the effect of endowing a defect free zone is greatly diminished.

Table A1

Temperature Gradient in Axial Direction		G outer/ G center	Growth Speed (mm/min)	Minimum OSF Ring Radius (mm)	
Crystal Center G center (°C/mm)	Crystal Perimeter G outer (°C/mm)				
2.304	2.350	1.02	0.395	78	
2.320	2.436	1.05	0.402	74	
2.502	2.752	1.10	0.429	45	Range of This Invention
2.600	3.250	1.25	0.451	43	
2.411	3.134	1.30	0.418	41	
2.921	4.089	1.40	0.511	42	
2.706	3.843	1.42	0.476	44	
2.750	4.125	1.50	0.489	45	
2.720	4.352	1.60	0.579	75	
3.102	5.422	1.80	0.714	79	

Embodiment 2

In the growth conditions sought in Table A1, when the crystal is grown at a constant pulling speed, changes in the temperature gradient in the crystal during growth cause a gradual deviation from the optimum growth conditions, so that in some cases the area occupied by the defect free zone contracts (as one example, see Table A2).

Table A2

Crystal Length (mm)	Distance from Si Melt to Heat-Shield Member (mm)	G center (°C/mm)	G outer (°C/mm)	G outer/ G center	Pulling Speed (mm/min)	Minimum OSF Ring Radius (mm)
0	25	2.827	4.749	1.68	0.451	####
100	25	2.747	4.175	1.52	0.451	####
200	25	2.690	3.954	1.47	0.451	45
300	25	2.661	3.486	1.31	0.451	41
400	25	2.600	3.250	1.25	0.451	43
500	25	2.549	3.161	1.24	0.451	43
600	25	2.506	3.057	1.22	0.451	45
700	25	2.478	2.974	1.20	0.451	52
800	25	2.433	2.871	1.18	0.451	58
900	25	2.401	2.737	1.14	0.451	64
1000	25	2.381	2.667	1.12	0.451	67

* #### indicates that the defect free zone did not extend to the crystal perimeter.

In such a case, by changing the pulling speed according to changes in the crystal length, a certain defect free zone can be endowed (Table A3).

Table A3

Crystal Length (mm)	Distance from Si Melt to Heat-Shield Member (mm)	G center (°C/mm)	G outer (°C/mm)	G outer/ G center	Pulling Speed (mm/min)	Minimum OSF Ring Radius (mm)
0	25	2.827	4.749	1.68	0.460	####
100	25	2.747	4.175	1.52	0.459	43
200	25	2.690	3.954	1.47	0.455	45
300	25	2.661	3.486	1.31	0.453	41
400	25	2.600	3.250	1.25	0.451	43
500	25	2.549	3.161	1.24	0.451	43
600	25	2.506	3.057	1.22	0.448	43
700	25	2.478	2.974	1.20	0.445	45
800	25	2.433	2.871	1.18	0.437	46
900	25	2.401	2.737	1.14	0.432	47
1000	25	2.381	2.667	1.12	0.428	48

* #### indicates that the defect free zone did not extend to the crystal perimeter.

Embodiment 3

An object of this embodiment is to show that when, as in Embodiment 2, there is gradual deviation from the optimum growth conditions due to changes in the temperature gradient in the crystal during growth, by applying changes to the distance between the silicon melt and the heat-shield member, endowment of a constant defect free zone is possible (Table A4).

Table A4

Crystal Length (mm)	Distance from Si Melt to Heat-Shield Member (mm)	G center (°C/mm)	G outer (°C/mm)	G outer/ G center	Pulling Speed (mm/min)	Minimum OSF Ring Radius (mm)
0	25	2.827	4.749	1.68	0.451	####
100	25	2.747	4.175	1.52	0.451	####
200	25	2.690	3.954	1.47	0.451	45
300	25	2.661	3.486	1.31	0.451	41
400	25	2.600	3.250	1.25	0.451	43
500	25	2.549	3.161	1.24	0.451	43
600	23	2.540	3.150	1.24	0.451	42
700	21	2.531	3.063	1.21	0.451	43
800	20	2.526	3.031	1.20	0.451	43
900	18	2.518	2.996	1.19	0.451	45
1000	16	2.511	2.913	1.10	0.451	46

* #### indicates that the defect free zone did not extend to the crystal perimeter.

As shown in Table A4, under conditions with the pulling speed constant, by changing the distance between the silicon melt and the heat-shield member according to changes in the crystal length, endowment of a constant defect free zone is possible. By means of this Embodiment 3, if the distance between the silicon melt and heat-shield member is changed, the same effect is obtained as when the pulling speed is changed (Embodiment 2). From this, it became clear that from the standpoint of obtaining a constant defect free zone, changing the

distance between the silicon melt and the heat-shield member in the silicon single crystal ingot production equipment has an effect equivalent to changing the pulling speed.

Embodiment 4

Under various hot zone conditions with different temperature environments, the pulling speed was changed, crystals were produced with different fractions of the above-described zones I through IV, and wafers cut from several places in each crystal were used in measurements of the GOI and OSF ring inner diameter (where the inner diameter is zone I) and to confirm the presence or absence of dislocation clusters; by these means, conditions were determined enabling the production of crystals having a satisfactory GOI and with no occurrence of dislocation clusters. GOI measurements were performed for an oxide film thickness of 25 nm, with an electrode area of 10 mm². The OSF inner diameter was determined from X-ray topography images after wafer heat treatment, and the presence or absence of dislocation clusters was judged through optical microscope observations after seco-etching.

The results appear in the attached Table B1 through Table B6. The tables list the pulling conditions at each wafer cutting position; pulling speed V, axial-direction temperature gradients at the crystal center G1, G2, $G1_{edge}/G1_{center}$, $G1 \times G2$, the ratio of the OSF ring inner diameter to the crystal diameter, the measured GOI, and the presence of dislocation clusters, organized by the $G1_{edge}/G1_{center}$ condition. In these tables, if the C mode yield for the GOI is 60% or higher, the crystal can be regarded as better than crystals normally in use.

Table B1

Table: Pulling conditions, GOI results, and presence/absence of dislocation clusters

	G1 °C/mm	G2 °C/mm	V mm/min	G1e /G1c	r(OSF) /r(Crystal)	G1*G2 °C ² /mm ²	GOI %	Dislocation Clusters Present?	Applicable to Claims
Table 1	2.0	1.5	0.33	1.1	0.977	3	25.23	No	
	2.0	1.5	0.32	1.1	0.902	3	35.40	No	
	2.0	1.5	0.31	1.1	0.693	3	58.40	No	
	2.0	1.5	0.3	1.1	0.580	3	59.40	No	
	2.0	1.5	0.26	1.1	0.422	3	72.20	Yes	
	2.5	2.4	0.41	1.1	0.977	6	11.72	No	
	2.5	2.4	0.4	1.1	0.902	6	25.54	No	
	2.5	2.4	0.39	1.1	0.693	6	57.97	No	
	2.5	2.4	0.38	1.1	0.580	6	58.30	No	
	2.5	2.4	0.35	1.1	0.422	6	72.20	Yes	
	3.2	2.5	0.52	1.1	0.902	8	23.19	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.5	1.1	0.693	8	57.64	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.48	1.1	0.580	8	58.30	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.45	1.1	0.422	8	72.20	Yes	
	3.3	3.0	0.54	1.1	0.977	10	6.16	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.52	1.1	0.811	10	39.53	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.5	1.1	0.580	10	47.60	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.47	1.1	0.422	10	70.20	Yes	
	3.75	3.2	0.62	1.1	0.977	12	5.01	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.58	1.1	0.693	12	57.47	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.56	1.1	0.580	12	58.30	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.54	1.1	0.422	12	70.20	Yes	

Table B2

Table: Pulling conditions, GOI results, and presence/absence of dislocation clusters

	G1 °C/mm	G2 °C/mm	V mm/min	G1e /G1c	r(OSF) /r(Crystal)	G1*G2 °C ² /mm ²	GOI %	Dislocation Clusters Present?	Applicable to Claims
Table 2	1.5	1.33	0.25	1.15	0.811	2	60.12	No	○
	1.5	1.33	0.24	1.15	0.788	2	60.92	No	○
	1.5	1.33	0.23	1.15	0.606	2	78.79	No	○
	1.5	1.33	0.22	1.15	0.520	2	82.30	No	○
	1.5	1.33	0.21	1.15	0.470	2	87.63	Yes	
	2.0	2.0	0.34	1.15	0.962	4	27.53	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.33	1.15	0.782	4	61.00	No	○
	2.0	2.0	0.32	1.15	0.708	4	62.47	No	○
	2.0	2.0	0.31	1.15	0.606	4	75.51	No	○
	2.0	2.0	0.3	1.15	0.520	4	82.20	No	○
	2.0	2.0	0.28	1.15	0.470	4	84.60	Yes	
	2.5	2.4	0.41	1.15	0.854	6	36.77	No	
	2.5	2.4	0.4	1.15	0.708	6	60.22	No	○
	2.5	2.4	0.39	1.15	0.606	6	74.70	No	○
	2.5	2.4	0.38	1.15	0.520	6	82.20	No	○
	2.5	2.4	0.37	1.15	0.470	6	83.50	Yes	
	2.5	2.4	0.36	1.15	0.402	6	86.40	Yes	
	3.2	2.5	0.53	1.15	0.911	8	23.17	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.51	1.15	0.708	8	60.22	No	○
	3.2	2.5	0.5	1.15	0.606	8	74.44	No	○
	3.2	2.5	0.48	1.15	0.520	8	81.30	No	○
	3.2	2.5	0.46	1.15	0.470	8	87.30	Yes	
	3.2	2.5	0.44	1.15	0.402	8	89.90	Yes	
	3.3	3.0	0.55	1.15	0.911	10	21.03	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.52	1.15	0.606	10	74.35	No	○
	3.75	3.2	0.62	1.15	0.854	12	32.52	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.6	1.15	0.788	12	44.45	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.58	1.15	0.606	12	74.35	No	○
	3.75	3.2	0.56	1.15	0.520	12	76.60	No	○
	3.75	3.2	0.54	1.15	0.470	12	79.90	Yes	
	3.75	3.2	0.52	1.15	0.402	12	92.30	Yes	
	4.0	3.5	0.68	1.15	0.962	14	8.86	No	
	4.0	3.5	0.65	1.15	0.854	14	31.11	No	
	4.0	3.5	0.62	1.15	0.606	14	74.30	No	○

Table 3

Table: Pulsing conditions, GOI results, and presence/absence of dislocation clusters

	G1 °C/mm	G2 °C/mm	V mm/min	G1e /G1c	r(OSF) /r(Crystal)	G1*G2 °C ² /mm ²	GOI %	Dislocation Clusters Present?	Applicable to Claims
Table 3	1.5	1.33	0.25	1.2	0.828	2	61.65	No	○
	1.5	1.33	0.24	1.2	0.716	2	71.84	No	○
	2.0	2.0	0.34	1.2	0.874	4	43.60	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.33	1.2	0.828	4	60.20	No	○
	2.0	2.0	0.32	1.2	0.716	4	63.66	No	○
	2.0	2.0	0.31	1.2	0.644	4	71.82	No	○
	3.0	2.0	0.5	1.2	0.828	6	43.30	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.48	1.2	0.716	6	60.48	No	○
	3.0	2.0	0.47	1.2	0.644	6	69.96	No	○
	3.0	2.0	0.45	1.2	0.521	6	72.45	No	○
	3.0	2.0	0.43	1.2	0.481	6	78.80	Yes	
	3.2	2.5	0.57	1.2	0.989	8	15.25	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.55	1.2	0.915	8	25.76	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.53	1.2	0.828	8	40.24	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.51	1.2	0.644	8	69.20	No	○
	3.3	3.0	0.58	1.2	0.953	10	15.11	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.56	1.2	0.874	10	30.58	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.54	1.2	0.776	10	48.09	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.52	1.2	0.644	10	68.86	No	○
	3.3	3.0	0.5	1.2	0.521	10	70.30	No	○
	3.3	3.0	0.48	1.2	0.481	10	76.90	Yes	
	3.3	3.0	0.46	1.2	0.437	10	82.43	Yes	
	3.75	3.2	0.65	1.2	0.915	12	21.13	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.63	1.2	0.828	12	37.41	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.61	1.2	0.776	12	47.37	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.59	1.2	0.644	12	68.69	No	○
	3.75	3.2	0.57	1.2	0.521	12	70.10	No	○
	3.75	3.2	0.57	1.2	0.481	12	75.80	Yes	
	3.75	3.2	0.57	1.2	0.437	12	81.34	Yes	
	4.0	3.5	0.7	1.2	0.953	14	11.43	No	
	4.0	3.5	0.68	1.2	0.874	14	28.19	No	
	4.0	3.5	0.66	1.2	0.776	14	46.93	No	
	4.0	3.5	0.64	1.2	0.716	14	57.60	No	

Table B4

Table: Puling conditions, GOI results, and presence/absence of dislocation clusters

	G1 °C/mm	G2 °C/mm	V mm/min	G1e /G1c	r(OSF) /r(Crystal)	G1*G2 °C ² /mm ²	GOI %	Dislocation Clusters Present?	Applicable to Claims
Table 4	1.5	1.33	0.26	1.25	0.850	2	63.55	No	○
	1.5	1.33	0.25	1.25	0.768	2	70.34	No	○
	1.5	1.33	0.24	1.25	0.691	2	75.62	No	○
	1.5	1.33	0.23	1.25	0.611	2	79.90	No	○
	1.5	1.33	0.22	1.25	0.522	2	86.80	No	○
	1.5	1.33	0.2	1.25	0.493	2	90.41	Yes	
	2.0	2.0	0.37	1.25	0.977	4	53.68	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.35	1.25	0.885	4	44.96	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.34	1.25	0.811	4	66.62	No	○
	2.0	2.0	0.33	1.25	0.720	4	64.45	No	○
	3.0	2.0	0.55	1.25	0.949	6	27.57	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.53	1.25	0.885	6	37.15	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.51	1.25	0.811	6	48.16	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.49	1.25	0.720	6	60.58	No	○
	3.0	2.0	0.47	1.25	0.691	6	68.20	No	○
	3.0	2.0	0.45	1.25	0.611	6	73.61	No	○
	3.0	2.0	0.43	1.25	0.522	6	79.91	No	○
	3.0	2.0	0.42	1.25	0.493	6	84.30	Yes	
	3.0	2.0	0.4	1.25	0.421	6	88.89	Yes	
	3.2	2.5	0.59	1.25	0.977	8	18.08	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.57	1.25	0.918	8	27.29	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.55	1.25	0.850	8	38.69	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.53	1.25	0.768	8	51.89	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.52	1.25	0.720	8	62.31	No	○
	3.2	2.5	0.48	1.25	0.691	8	69.25	No	○
	3.2	2.5	0.47	1.25	0.611	8	74.56	No	○
	3.2	2.5	0.45	1.25	0.522	8	84.36	No	○
	3.2	2.5	0.43	1.25	0.493	8	89.72	Yes	
	3.2	2.5	0.41	1.25	0.421	8	91.70	Yes	
	3.3	3.0	0.6	1.25	0.949	10	18.14	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.58	1.25	0.885	10	29.73	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.56	1.25	0.811	10	42.89	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.55	1.25	0.768	10	50.38	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.69	1.25	0.977	12	11.16	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.67	1.25	0.918	12	21.79	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.65	1.25	0.850	12	34.71	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.62	1.25	0.720	12	56.94	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.6	1.25	0.611	12	61.11	No	○
	3.75	3.2	0.58	1.25	0.522	12	68.93	No	○
	3.75	3.2	0.56	1.25	0.493	12	75.42	Yes	
	3.75	3.2	0.54	1.25	0.421	12	86.94	Yes	

Table B5

Table 5: Pulling conditions, GOI results, and presence/absence of dislocation clusters

	G1 °C/mm	G2 °C/mm	V mm/min	G1e /G1c	r(OSF) /r(Crystal)	G1*G2 °C ² /mm ²	GOI %	Dislocation Clusters Present?	Applicable to Claims
Table 5	1.5	1.33	0.29	1.3	0.993	2	56.95	No	
	1.5	1.33	0.27	1.3	0.864	2	65.04	No	
	1.5	1.33	0.26	1.3	0.800	2	69.73	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.38	1.3	0.969	4	38.26	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.36	1.3	0.864	4	50.25	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.35	1.3	0.833	4	54.03	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.58	1.3	0.993	6	26.29	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.56	1.3	0.945	6	31.17	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.54	1.3	0.864	6	42.58	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.51	1.3	0.763	6	56.39	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.49	1.3	0.691	6	58.10	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.47	1.3	0.623	6	59.70	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.46	1.3	0.555	6	69.60	Yes	
	3.2	2.5	0.62	1.3	0.993	8	19.40	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.6	1.3	0.945	8	25.16	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.58	1.3	0.893	8	32.98	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.56	1.3	0.833	8	43.08	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.55	1.3	0.800	8	47.72	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.54	1.3	0.763	8	57.60	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.51	1.3	0.691	8	59.72	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.49	1.3	0.555	8	65.40	Yes	
	3.2	2.5	0.48	1.3	0.503	8	70.01	Yes	
	3.3	3.0	0.64	1.3	0.993	10	14.76	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.62	1.3	0.945	10	21.17	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.6	1.3	0.893	10	29.69	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.58	1.3	0.833	10	40.55	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.56	1.3	0.763	10	51.73	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.54	1.3	0.691	10	57.70	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.52	1.3	0.623	10	59.32	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.5	1.3	0.503	10	71.14	Yes	
	3.75	3.2	0.73	1.3	0.993	12	11.50	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.71	1.3	0.945	12	18.42	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.69	1.3	0.920	12	22.86	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.67	1.3	0.864	12	33.16	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.64	1.3	0.763	12	50.63	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.62	1.3	0.691	12	55.46	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.6	1.3	0.623	12	59.65	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.58	1.3	0.555	12	69.87	Yes	
	3.75	3.2	0.56	1.3	0.503	12	78.10	Yes	

Table B6

Table 5: Pulling conditions, GOI results, and presence/absence of dislocation clusters

	G1 °C/mm	G2 °C/mm	V mm/min	G1e /G1c	r(OSF) /r(Crystal)	G1*G2 °C ² /mm ²	GOI %	Dislocation Clusters Present?	Applicable to Claims
Table 6	1.5	1.3	0.31	1.4	0.977	2	60.12	No	
	1.5	1.3	0.28	1.4	0.859	2	69.33	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.41	1.4	0.977	4	40.99	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.39	1.4	0.902	4	50.14	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.37	1.4	0.836	4	57.46	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.35	1.4	0.783	4	59.30	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.33	1.4	0.721	4	67.60	No	
	2.0	2.0	0.31	1.4	0.624	4	72.61	yes	
	2.0	2.0	0.29	1.4	0.562	4	80.80	yes	
	3.0	2.0	0.62	1.4	0.977	6	30.10	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.6	1.4	0.941	6	34.76	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.58	1.4	0.902	6	41.10	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.56	1.4	0.859	6	46.54	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.55	1.4	0.811	6	52.78	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.54	1.4	0.700	6	59.23	No	
	3.0	2.0	0.53	1.4	0.600	6	69.78	yes	
	3.0	2.0	0.52	1.4	0.520	6	72.30	yes	
	3.2	2.5	0.67	1.4	0.994	8	21.84	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.65	1.4	0.959	8	25.37	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.63	1.4	0.922	8	31.68	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.61	1.4	0.881	8	37.74	No	
	3.2	2.5	0.59	1.4	0.836	8	45.40	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.69	1.4	0.994	10	16.80	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.67	1.4	0.959	10	20.79	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.65	1.4	0.922	10	27.59	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.63	1.4	0.881	10	34.18	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.6	1.4	0.811	10	45.89	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.58	1.4	0.723	10	49.32	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.56	1.4	0.700	10	58.60	No	
	3.3	3.0	0.54	1.4	0.600	10	65.70	yes	
	3.3	3.0	0.51	1.4	0.470	10	71.45	yes	
	3.75	3.2	0.78	1.4	0.994	12	13.17	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.75	1.4	0.941	12	20.97	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.72	1.4	0.881	12	31.69	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.7	1.4	0.859	12	36.01	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.68	1.4	0.811	12	44.05	No	
	3.75	3.2	0.66	1.4	0.723	12	50.28	yes	
	3.75	3.2	0.64	1.4	0.520	12	66.67	yes	
	3.75	3.2	0.62	1.4	0.470	12	72.58	yes	

Fig. 3(A) through Fig. 3(F) show, for Table B1 through Table B6 respectively, the ratio of the OSF ring inner diameter to the crystal diameter, and the GOI results and the presence or absence of dislocation clusters resulting from the G1xG2 condition. It was found that in order to obtain crystals with a GOI C mode yield of 60% or higher and without dislocations, it is sufficient to control the ratio of the OSF ring inner diameter to the crystal diameter, G1xG2, and $G1_{edge}/G1_{center}$. It was clarified that the condition range is " $1.15 \leq (G1_{edge}/G1_{center}) \leq 1.25$ ", and moreover " $0.5 < (\text{OSF ring inner diameter/crystal diameter}) < 1.06 \times (G1 \times G2)^{-0.2}$ " (where the units for G1 and G2 are "°C/mm").

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

By means of the method or equipment of this invention, silicon single crystal wafers having a constant defect free zone can be reliably produced, stably and at low cost. Consequently the overall cost of semiconductor production processes can be reduced, and the economic benefits can be enhanced.

Also, by means of this invention a method enabling the production of crystals with an intermixing of (I) a void defect zone, (II) an OSF ring zone, and (III) a perfectly crystalline (defect free) zone, having a satisfactory GOI yield and without the occurrence of dislocation clusters, and enabling the production of device wafers suitable for efficient manufacturing.

CLAIMS

1. A method for producing a silicon single crystal ingot by the Czochralski method, characterized in that

by adjusting parameters during pulling of the silicon single crystal ingot, and performing pulling of "a silicon single crystal ingot containing a perfectly crystalline part" such that an OSF ring appears at a prescribed position in the silicon single crystal ingot, a production efficiency of "a perfectly crystalline part of the silicon single crystal ingot" and/or of "a part of the silicon single crystal ingot which can be used as wafers" is improved.

2. A method for producing a silicon single crystal ingot by the Czochralski method, characterized in that

$G_{\text{outer}}/G_{\text{center}}$, which is a ratio of values at a crystal outer edge and at a crystal center of an average value G of a temperature gradient in the crystal in a pulling axis direction, within a temperature range from a silicon melting point to 1350°C, is between 1.10 and 1.50.

3. The silicon single crystal ingot production method according to claim 2, characterized in that the silicon single crystal ingot production is performed while adjusting a distance between a silicon melt and a heat-shield member installed in a Czochralski-method silicon single crystal production equipment.

4. The silicon single crystal ingot production method according to claim 2 or claim 3, characterized in that, when producing the silicon single crystal ingot, a pulling speed of the silicon single crystal ingot is changed.

5. A silicon single crystal wafer, obtained from the silicon single crystal ingot of any one of claims 2 through 4, wherein there exists an OSF ring an inner diameter of which is 70% or less of an overall diameter, and in which there exists, surrounding the OSF ring, a defect free zone occupying 50% or more of a total surface area (on one side).

6. A silicon single crystal wafer, obtained from the silicon single crystal ingot of any one of claims 2 through 4, wherein there exists an OSF ring an inner diameter of which is 50% or less of an overall diameter, and in which there exists, surrounding the OSF ring, a defect free zone occupying 75% or more of a total surface area (on one side).

7. A silicon ingot, pulled by a CZ method under conditions satisfying the following (1) and (2):

$$(1) 1.15 \leq (G1_{\text{edge}}/G1_{\text{center}}) \leq 1.25$$

$$(2) 0.5 < (\text{OSF ring inner diameter/crystal diameter}) < 1.06 \times (G1_{\text{center}} \times G2_{\text{center}})^{-0.2}$$

8. A silicon wafer, cut from the silicon ingot of claim 7, characterized in that the inner diameter of the OSF ring is at least 1/2 the inner diameter of the wafer.

9. A method of producing a silicon ingot, characterized in that the silicon ingot is pulled by the CZ method under conditions satisfying the following (1) and (2):

$$(1) 1.15 \leq (G1_{\text{edge}}/G1_{\text{center}}) \leq 1.25$$

$$(2) 0.5 < (\text{OSF ring inner diameter/crystal diameter}) < 1.06 \times (G1_{\text{center}} \times G2_{\text{center}})^{-0.2}$$

10. A silicon wafer for non-annealing, cut from a silicon ingot produced by the CZ method, characterized in that an inner diameter of an OSF ring is at least 1/2 a wafer inner diameter.

11. The silicon wafer for non-annealing according to claim 10, characterized in that the silicon ingot is produced by pulling under conditions such that " $1.15 \leq (G1_{\text{edge}}/G1_{\text{center}}) \leq 1.25$ ".

12. In a silicon wafer cut from a silicon ingot produced by the CZ method, a method to reduce a density of void defects existing on the inside of an OSF ring by expanding an inner diameter of the OSF ring.

13. In a silicon wafer cut from a silicon ingot produced by the CZ method, a method to improve a gate oxide integrity in an area on the inside of an OSF ring by controlling a ratio of an OSF ring inner diameter to a crystal diameter, $G1 \times G2$, and $G1_{\text{edge}}/G1_{\text{center}}$.

ABSTRACT

A method for producing a silicon single crystal by a Czochralski method in order to provide a method capable of affording a wide defect free zone stably to a silicon single crystal wafer produced by a Czochralski method, wherein a ratio $G_{\text{outer}}/G_{\text{center}}$ of an average value G of an in-crystal temperature gradient in a pulling axis direction within a temperature range, a silicon melting point to 1350 °C, at a crystal outer surface to that at a crystal center is set to 1.10 to 1.50. A method of producing a device wafer suitable for an efficient production, wherein a ratio between an OSF ring inner diameter and a crystal diameter, $G1 \times G2$, and $G1_{\text{edge}}/G1_{\text{center}}$ are controlled to implement relations, $(1.15 \leq (G1_{\text{edge}}/G1_{\text{center}}) \leq 1.25)$ and $(0.5 < (\text{OSF ring inner diameter/crystal diameter}) < 1.06 \times (G1 \times G2)^{-0.2})$, to thereby obtain a silicon single crystal having a gate oxide integrity at C mode yield of at least 60% and being free from dislocation.

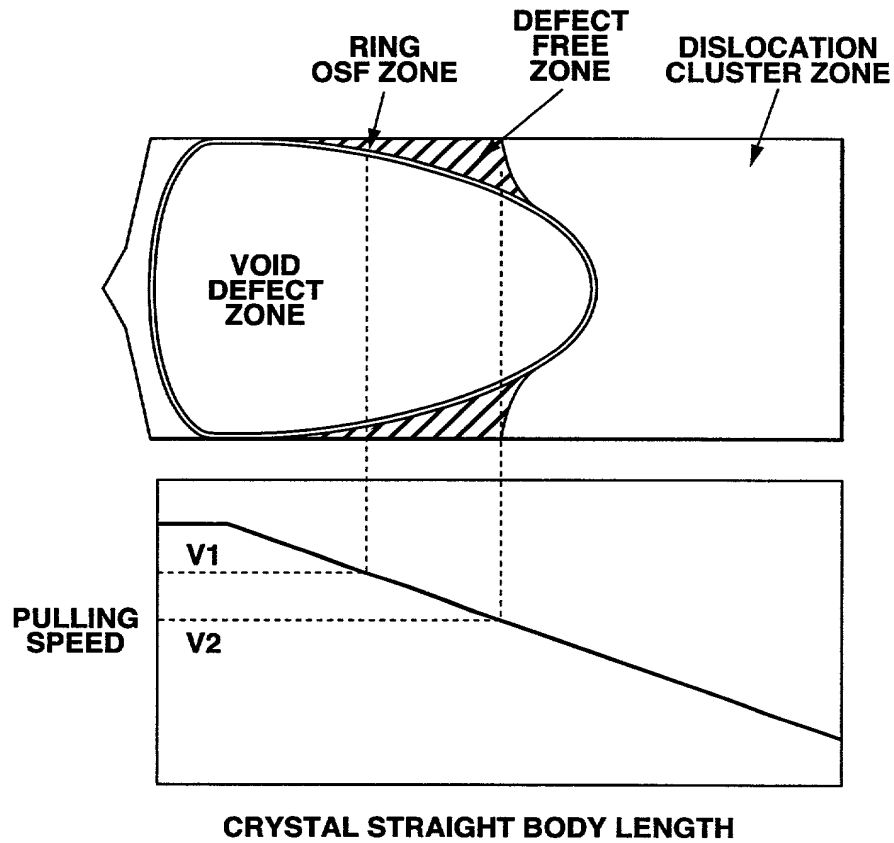
**FIG.1**



FIG. 2

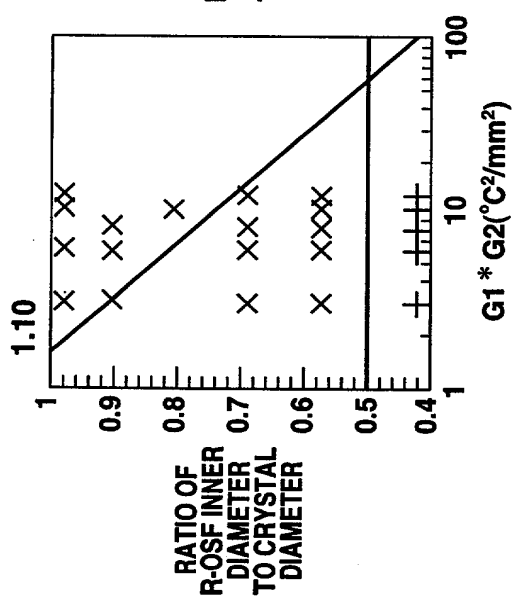


FIG. 3(A)

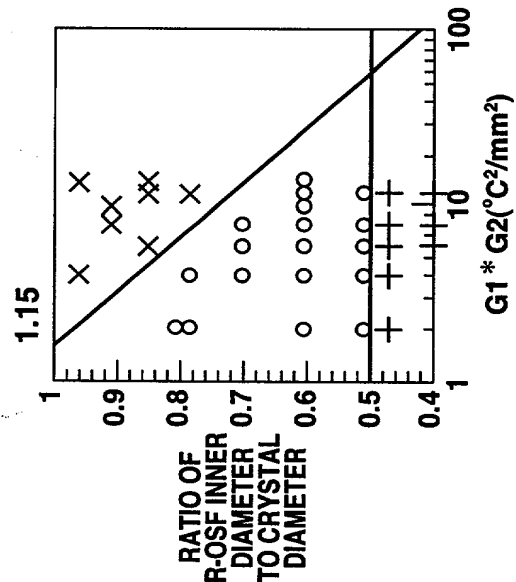


FIG. 3(B)

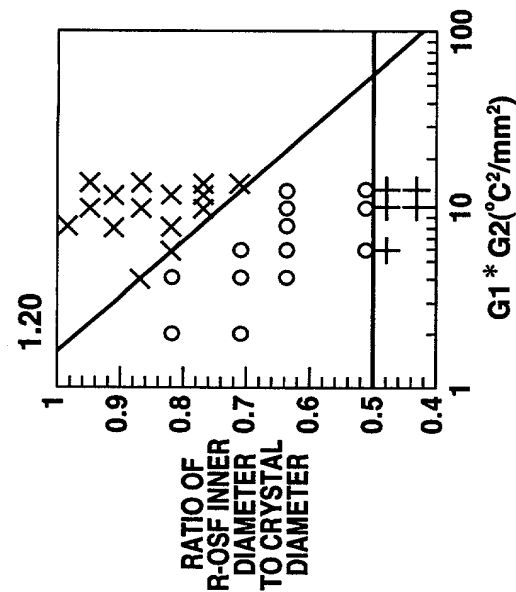


FIG. 3(C)

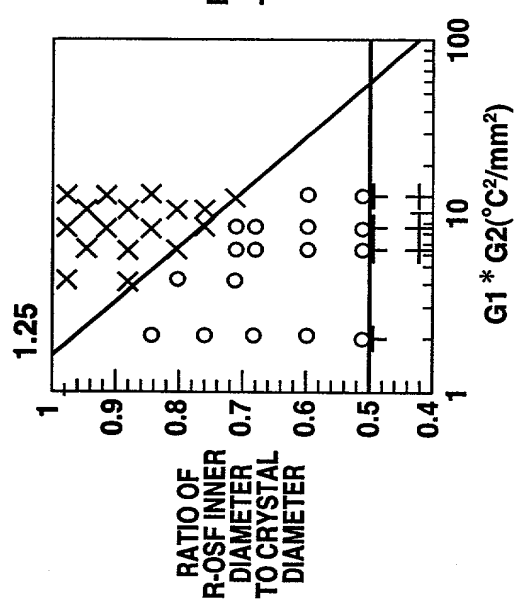


FIG. 3(D)

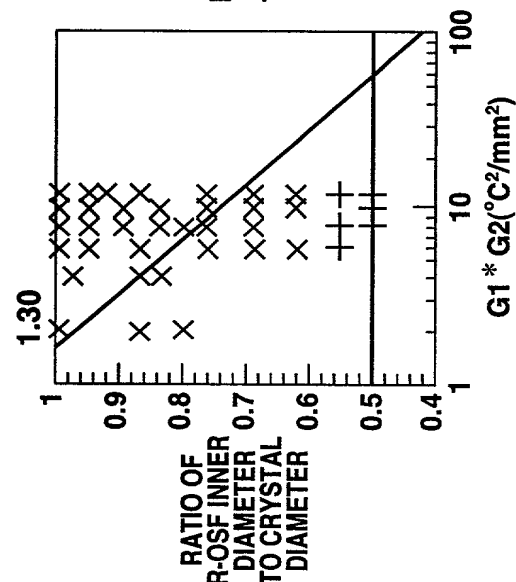


FIG. 3(E)

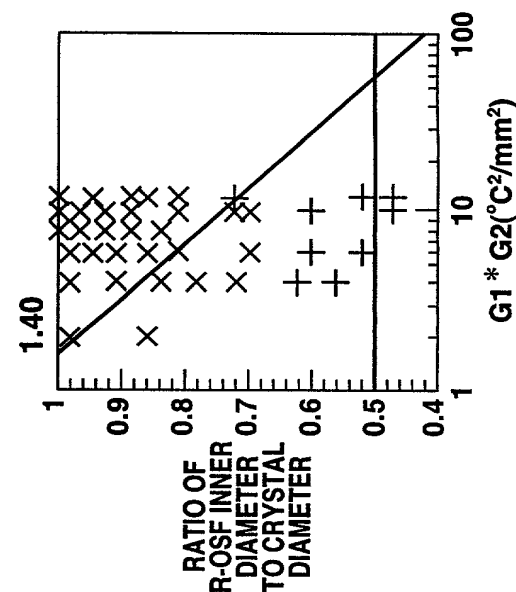


FIG. 3(F)

KEM-9005

That my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

That I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: SILICON SINGLE CRYSTAL AND PRODUCTION METHOD
the specification of which (check one) FOR SILICON SINGLE CRYSTAL WAFER

☐ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on November 19, 1999 as Application, Serial No. PCT/JP99/06478 and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

That I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

That I acknowledge the duty to disclose information known to be material to patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56(a).

That I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

<u>330714/1998</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>20/11/1998</u>
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)

Priority Claimed

☒ ☐
Yes No

<u>078498/1999</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>23/3/1999</u>
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)

☒ ☐
Yes No

That I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

United States Application(s)

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)-(Patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)-(Patented, pending, abandoned)

That all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

I hereby appoint the following attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and request that all correspondence and telephone calls in respect to this application be directed to: WELSH & KATZ, LTD., 120 South Riverside Plaza, 22nd Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60606-3913, Telephone No.: (312) 655-1500:

Attorney

Registration No.

13 /
Donald L. Welsh
A. Sidney Katz
Richard L. Wood
Jerold B. Schnayer
Eric C. Cohen
Joseph R. Marcus
Gerald S. Schur
Gerald T. Shekleton
James A. Scheer
Daniel R. Cherry
Edward P. Gamson
Kathleen A. Rheintgen
Thomas W. Tolpin

16,665
24,003
22,839
28,903
27,429
25,060
22,053
27,466
29,434
29,054
29,381
34,044
27,600

I hereby authorize the U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions from T. KIMURA PATENT OFFICE (Insert Foreign Associate) as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, I will so notify the U.S. attorney or agent named herein.

Full name of sole or one
joint inventor:

Kozo NAKAMURA

10 /
Inventor's signature:

Kozo Nakamura

Date:

April 25, 2001

Residence:

Residence and Post Office Address:

Hiratsuka-shi, Kanagawa, Japan JPX

Post Office Address:

c/o Komatsu Denshi Kinzoku Kabushiki Kaisha,
25-1, Shinomiya 3-chome, Hiratsuka-shi,
Kanagawa 254-0014 Japan

Citizenship:

Japanese

2-29
Full name of additional joint
inventor, if any:

Toshiaki SAISHOJI

Inventor's signature:

Toshiaki Saishoji

Date:

April 25, 2001

Residence:

Residence and Post Office Address:

Hiratsuka-shi, Kanagawa, Japan JPX

Post Office Address:

c/o Komatsu Denshi Kinzoku Kabushiki Kaisha,
25-1, Shinomiya 3-chome, Hiratsuka-shi,
Kanagawa 254-0014 Japan

Citizenship:

Japanese

Full name of additional joint
inventor, if any:

Takashi YOKOYAMA

Inventor's signature:

Takashi Yokoyama

Date:

April 25, 2001

Residence:

Residence and Post Office Address:

Hiratsuka-shi, Kanagawa, Japan JPX

Post Office Address:

c/o Komatsu Denshi Kinzoku Kabushiki Kaisha,
25-1, Shinomiya 3-chome, Hiratsuka-shi,
Kanagawa 254-0014 Japan

Citizenship:

Japanese

Address for Correspondence:

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 South Riverside Plaza
22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3913

X-
Full name of additional joint inventor, if any:

Shin MATSUKUMA

Inventor's signature:

Shin Matsukuma

Date:

April 25, 2001

Residence:

Residence and Post Office Address:

Omura-shi, ~~Nagasaki-shi~~, Japan JPX

Post Office Address:

c/o Komatsu Denshi Kinzoku Kabushiki Kaisha,
25-1, Shinomiya 3-chome, Hiratsuka-shi,
Kanagawa 254-0014 Japan

Citizenship:

Japanese

5-
Full name of additional joint inventor, if any:

Fumitaka ISHIKAWA

Inventor's signature:

Fumitaka Ishikawa

Date:

April 25, 2001

Residence:

Residence and Post Office Address:

Yokohama-shi, ~~Kanagawa~~, Japan JPX

Post Office Address:

c/o Komatsu Denshi Kinzoku Kabushiki Kaisha,
25-1, Shinomiya 3-chome, Hiratsuka-shi,
Kanagawa 254-0014 Japan

Citizenship:

Japanese

Address for Correspondence:

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 South Riverside Plaza
22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3913